Methodology to measurae poverty

2951. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high powered Committee headed by Prime Minister's economic advisory council chairman has finalized a new methodology for measuring poverty based on a basket of goods consumed by people in rural and urban areas;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) whether Government has accepted this methodology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Planning Commission constituted an Expert Group to review the methodology for estimation of poverty under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar, who is currently the Chairman of Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister. The committee has not submitted its report.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Private agencies for Plan review

2952. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to rope in the private agencies for Plan review;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the exact need to engage the private agencies; and

(d) the responsibility they would take if something goes awry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) Planning Commission has initiated Mid Term Appraisal of the Eleventh Five Year Plan. As part of this exercise, it has been decided to take inputs from independent reputed research institutions regarding the performance of the Plan. Based on these inputs, Planning Commission would make a comprehensive Mid-Term Review of the performance of the Eleventh Five Year Plan in terms of major achievements/shortfalls and make necessary recommendations for mid course correction.

Funds for infrastructure development

2953. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of economic and infrastructure development schemes/projects for which the Union Government has allocated funds during last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the amount of funds allocated during the above period, scheme-wise, year-wise and State-wise;